

Marie, daughter of Fred Clatch and Jenny Corra was married to Francis, son of Miles Bonner and Mary Hannigan, on June 23, 1963 by Father Thomas Hannigan, at Our Lady of Grace Church in Hazleton. They have been Pennsylvania residents all of their married lives. First in Secane, then in Berwyn, then in Harrisburg and now in Hazleton. They have a daughter, Mary Patricia, who currently resides in Washington, DC with her husband Roy Eichler.

Marie and Fran have led remarkable lives in the arena of public service. Marie has been a homemaker all her life and very active in her daughter's school and after school programs. She has done a considerable amount of volunteer work for both the Harrisburg School system and St. Margaret Mary's Church. She remains a terrific role model for the many children she has encountered throughout her volunteering career.

Fran has been extremely active in local and state government, serving in a senior position in Governor Milton Schapp's Administration and later on the Unemployment Compensation Board during the Governor Robert Casey's Administration. He has been extremely active in the Hazleton Community serving as the Chairman of St. Joseph's Hospital Board, and as a Trustee for the Anthracite Health and Welfare Fund for 15 years. It is no surprise he was bestowed the honor of "Hazletonian of the Year."

Fran also served on the White House ad-hoc Anthracite committee in 1980 and was a Member of the Marketing Panel for the Governor's Coal Conference that same year. In 1977 he was a member of the United States Department of Energy Anthracite Task Force and throughout the 1970s he served on both the Governor's Energy Council and the Pennsylvania Industrial Development Authority. He has been active in the Philadelphia Fellowship Commission and the Hazleton City Planning and Zoning board. He was also the Deputy State Chairman of the Democratic State Committee and the Assistant Director of the Urban Studies Program at the University of Villanova.

The Pennsylvania House of Representatives recognized Fran for directing the recovery efforts of the Kocher mine disaster in 1976. He has testified on the advancement of anthracite coal before both the U.S. Congress and Pennsylvania Legislature.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to showcase the achievements of these two special residents of Pennsylvania's 11th Congressional District and ask my colleagues to join me both in celebrating their 40 years of marriage and in wishing them many more happy years together.

**RECOGNIZING CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER DAVID WILLIAMS, U.S. ARMY APACHE HELICOPTER PILOT AND PRISONER OF WAR, ON HIS VALIANT BRAVERY OVERSEAS**

**HON. J. RANDY FORBES**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2003*

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Chief Warrant Officer David Williams, U.S. Army Apache helicopter pilot who was a Prisoner of War during Operation Iraqi

Freedom. Iraqi forces detained him for 21 days as a POW after his helicopter was grounded near Karbala, Iraq. Williams valiantly fought and survived imprisonment after being captured.

Chief Warrant Officer Williams moved to Hampton Roads in 1981 with his family and grew up in Chesapeake, Virginia. From early childhood, David was always enthralled with planes and the magic of air flight. After graduating from Great Bridge High School in Chesapeake, Williams enrolled in community college and joined the Army as a full time reservist. After spending two years as a crew chief on a med-evac Huey helicopter, Williams searched for a bigger challenge. He was assigned to the Army's 106th Special Operations Aviation Regiment and also went through Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape school while traveling the world doing preparatory combat missions.

Next week, we will welcome back David Williams to his hometown of Chesapeake, Virginia with a host of events and celebrations for his heroic return. We are pleased to salute him for protecting our flag and our freedom. The Independence Day holiday is a perfect time to show our deep appreciation to this brave citizen and soldier who spent his childhood in the Fourth District of Virginia.

Williams showed tremendous bravery and commitment to his country while held by his Iraqi captors. Today we recognize him for his unwavering patriotism and dedication to both his job and the American people.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Chief Warrant Officer David Williams for his bravery and dedication abroad, his service to Chesapeake, the Commonwealth of Virginia, and the American people.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JIM SAXTON**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2003*

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, June 25, 2003, I was unable to cast my vote for roll-call numbers 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, and 317 due to the fact that I was attending a funeral for my dear friend from Arizona, Representative Bob Stump.

Had I been presented, I would have voted "aye" for all 6 votes.

#### LEGISLATION ADDRESSES SHOCKING PROBLEM OF PRISON RAPE

**HON. FRANK R. WOLF**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2003*

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I recently shared with our colleagues several personal accounts related by survivors of the brutal and inhumane act of sexual assault in our nation's prisons.

H.R. 1707, the Prison Rape Reduction Act of 2003, focuses attention on the growing problem of prison rape. I was pleased to co-author this legislation with my Virginia colleague, Rep. Bobby Scott. The bill is pending mark-up in the House Judiciary Committee

and we are hopeful that it will be on the House floor soon. I believe in being tough on crime. But this has nothing to do with being tough on crime. It has everything to do with human dignity and ending deliberate indifference toward sexual assaults in prisons, maintaining order in prisons, and reducing social and economic costs to a society left to deal with physically and psychologically damaged former inmates.

Today I want to share additional stories from those whose lives have been forever changed by the sexual assaults happening every day in the prisons in our country.

Imagine knowing that someone you love is being repeatedly raped, abused, and degraded and that there is little to nothing that you can do about it.

For the last two and a half years, my family and I have been paralyzed by this knowledge and our inability to stop the rape and abuse.

My name is Vivian Edwards and I am here to tell you about my nephew, Roderick Johnson. In my family, he goes by Keith.

Keith is a Navy veteran and was imprisoned in Marshall, Texas in January of 2000 for a non-violent crime. He wrote a \$300 check even though he knew that he did not have the funds to cover this amount, violating the terms of his parole for a burglary that he committed over 10 years ago.

From the beginning, my nephew knew that being a gay man put him at risk, so he informed prison officials that he was gay in hopes that he would be offered protection. My nephew was offered no protection. While at Allred, he was placed in the general population.

He might as well have been put in a lions' den. He was immediately given the name "CoCo" by the other inmates which made it clear to all inmates that he was available for sexual exploitation. The prison officials also began to call Keith by this nickname and would refer to him as "she" or "her."

Keith was raped by a member of the gang called 'Gangster Disciples' in early October 2000. My nephew informed prison officials about what had happened and that he feared for his life. He asked for medical assistance. They told him that medical care was only available for an emergency. My nephew was raped! How can someone say that is not an emergency?

Soon after the rape, things just got worse for my nephew. Hernandez began 'sharing' Keith with other inmates, and Keith literally became a sex slave.

Keith wrote to several of his family members from prison. He was afraid to tell most of us that he was being severely sexually abused. But the letters started to change, and he eventually told us what was happening. I can still remember reading the words: "they make me do things I don't want to do" and just crying. He told us that he feared for his life.

We called the prison to find out what was going on. Staff at the prison said they would check into Keith's complaints. They said Keith's complaints didn't warrant an investigation but they would move him to another prison wing. He wasn't safe there either. Other family members and I continued to write and call on Keith's behalf, but nothing ever changed—he was never safe.

During a period of 18 months, Keith appeared before the classification committee of Allred seven times. Each time he asked to be put in protective custody, but his requests were denied each time.

Each time they denied Keith the protection that he so badly needed, he was sent back to the general population and raped and